Application/Control Number: 10/566,910
Art Unit: 3723

1. The scope of claim 14 reciting "a second backing textile abutting the first backing textile laterally at one of the longitudinal edges of the first backing textile" (emphasis added; lines 6-7) is unclear with the disclosed set of drawings, particularly, that disclosed by Fig. 8. The specification at p. 12, lines 17-31 recites that a second flat mop cover with a backing textile 1' is provided laterally next to the first flat mop cover at one of its longitudinal edges. Also, the specification at p. 12, lines 22-23, recites that the backing textiles 1, 1' of both mop covers are formed as a unitary, enlarged backing textile 1, 1' (emphasis added). Similarly, the backing textile in Fig. 8 only appears as single backing textile with no line of demarcation or any "abutting" feature between two backing textiles 1 1'. Further, a question arises as to whether the term "abutting" (claim 14, line 6) constitutes new matter since such term "abutting" has not been originally disclosed.

Furthermore, with the above being said, the scope of claims 16-22 cannot be clearly determined as a result of the recited "separating section". In other words, how can the first backing textile and the second backing textile be in "abutting" (claim 14, line 6) relationship if there is a "separating section" therebetween as recited now in claims 16-22?

Claim 14, line 5, it appears "the mop holder" should read –a mop holder-- if such is not being positively claimed. Application/Control Number: 10/566,910
Art Unit: 3723

3. In Fig. 8, should the right-hand occurrence of the reference numeral 4' be just 4

3. In Fig. 8, should the <u>right-hand occurrence</u> of the reference numeral 4" be just 4 instead?

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Randall Chin whose telephone number is (571) 272-1270. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Hail can be reached on (571) 272-4485. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Randall Chin/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3723